PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 7528.0002-15

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of) \
Cyril J. SCHWEICH, Jr. et al.) Group Art Unit: 3762
Application No.: 10/073,968) Examiner: J. Jastrzab
Filed: February 14, 2002))
For: HEART WALL TENSION REDUCTION APPARATUS) Confirmation No.: 8329

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION AND SUGGESTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.202 FOR AN INTERFERENCE WITH U.S. PATENT NOS. 6,190,408 AND 6,409,760

In reply to the Office Action mailed on September 22, 2005, the period for response having been extended to January 23, 2006 (January 22, 2006, being a Sunday), by a Petition for Extension of Time - One Month - and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and further to the Amendments of February 14, 2002, and January 24, 2003, Applicants make this submission pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.202 to provoke an interference with U.S. Patent Nos. 6,190,408 ("the '408 patent") (attached as Exhibit A) and 6,409,760 ("the '760 patent") (attached as Exhibit B). Additionally, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks follow the amendment sections of this paper.